Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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R 171045Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5243 INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL VIENNA 01557

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, ELAB, PFOR, OECD, EEC, AU

SUBJECT: US PROPOSAL FOR COMMON CODE FOR FIRMS

OPERATING IN SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 04226

- 1. MFA HAS INFORMED US THAT AUSTRIA HAS NO IMPORTANT OBJECTIONS TO THE U.S. PROPOSAL AND WILL DOUBTLESS ADOPT CODE IF OTHERS DO. HOWEVER, AUSTRIANS DO NOT SEE MUCH POINT IN SUCH A CODE. EC, ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIAL, HAS LEARNED ITS CODE OF NO HELP TO THEM IN UN.
- 2. MFA DOES NOT KNOW EXTENT OF AUSTRIAN INVESTMENT AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT THEY ARE SMALL. THE AUSTRIANS ARE UNCERTAIN HOW ANY CODE COULD BE ENFORCED AND SUPPOSE THAT AUSTRIAN FIRMS WOULD NOT COMPLY IF COMPLIANCE NOT IN THE FIRM'S INTEREST. AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT SUPPORT A REPORTING REQUIREMENT.
- 3. THE MFA SPOKESMAN WAS NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT AUSTRIAN CONFIDENTIAL.

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ATTENDANCE AT ANY MEETING TO PRODUCE A COMMON CODE BUT SAID MFA HAD ALREADY TALKED TO SWISS AND SWEDES ABOUT A CODE. WOLF

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TAGS: EINV, ELAB, PFOR, AU, SF, OECD, EEC

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